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INFORMA

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COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT Political Information: Opposition to
KIM Il-sŏng in North Korea

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1. The struggle for political supremacy in North Korea between KIM Il-sŏng (金日成) and KIM Tu-pong (金斗奉) has been intensified since the announcement by the Soviet authorities that the Soviet army was preparing to withdraw from North Korea.
2. From the beginning of the Soviet occupation of North Korea, the Soviet authorities tried to weaken KIM Tu-pong's influence in North Korea by replacing his followers in various government organizations with the pro-Soviet followers of KIM Il-sŏng. Many of KIM Tu-pong's followers were sent to work either in Manchuria or in various unimportant areas of North Korea. However, since the announcement of the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from North Korea, many of KIM Tu-pong's followers have returned to North Korea from Manchuria. As a result, the movement for the removal of KIM Il-sŏng and his pro-Soviet followers from their positions in the government has gained momentum.

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() Comment. () in November 1947 KIM Il-sŏng and KIM Tu-pong led two opposing factions in the North Korean Labor Party and the North Korean government. KIM Il-sŏng was reported as the leader of the "International Revolutionary Faction," which was supported by the USSR, and KIM Tu-pong as the leader of the faction which sought to establish Communism in Korea on a national rather than an international basis.)

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